

To: Matlock, Dennis[Matlock.Dennis@epa.gov]; Wright, Dave[Wright.Dave@epa.gov]; Burns, Francis[Burns.Fran@epa.gov]
From: Steuteville, William
Sent: Fri 1/10/2014 2:46:36 AM
Subject: Fw: Freedom Industries, Charleston, WV chemical spill; methylcyclohexane and drinking water, update from WV PCC
January 9 Exposure.docx

From: Werner, Lora
Sent: Thursday, January 09, 2014 9:44:39 PM
To: Steuteville, William; Matlock, Dennis; Burns, Francis; Walt Ivey; Barb Taylor
Cc: Markiewicz, Karl
Subject: Fw: Freedom Industries, Charleston, WV chemical spill; methylcyclohexane and drinking water, update from WV PCC

Hi there

Just sharing a forward from Dr. [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy] from the WV Poison Control Center. Thanks to Karl for some really fast helpful tox info. Just let us know if you need anything on the ATSDR side. Thinking of you guys in WV, I am sure this is stressful.
Lora

From: [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Sent: Thursday, January 09, 2014 9:37:43 PM
To: Werner, Lora
Cc: Markiewicz, Karl; Helverson, Robert; Pomales, Ana
Subject: RE: Freedom Industries, Charleston, WV chemical spill; methylcyclohexane and drinking water

Thanks, Lora!

The Poison Center is getting hammered right now! And thanks, Karl for your research. I equally have found minimal info about it. I've attached our response to anyone calling with an exposure. Mostly based on the structure, I would expect this chemical to cause gastric irritation, maybe defatting to skin, and possibly inebriating if ingested. I'm glad your analysis was similar to mine as I don't think this will be an inhalation risk based on volatility.

As always, thanks for your help.

[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]

Chief, Division of Medical Toxicology
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-----Original Message-----

From: Werner, Lora [mailto:Werner.Lora@epa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, January 09, 2014 9:22 PM
To: [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]

Cc: Markiewicz, Karl; Helverson, Robert; Pomales, Ana
Subject: Freedom Industries, Charleston, WV chemical spill; methylcyclohexane and drinking water

Hi 

I am sure you have heard about this already, but wanted to share what we have heard over here on the ATSDR and EPA R3 side. Are you getting calls in to the PCC?

"This afternoon there was a chemical spill from Freedom Industries, which is the old Pennzoil Refinery. The spilled chemical was methylcyclohexane, which is used in coal preparation and processing. Spill into the ELK River occurred sometime earlier in the day and there was an early report of an odor. The Gov of WV declared a state of emergency for at least five counties. The Kanawha Valley Water Treatment Plant detected the chemical even after the increased carbon treatment effort.

WV issued an order to not drink cook or bathe in the water, which affects approximately 100,000 people. WV is conducting additional water sampling. The Civil Support Team is also deployed to the WVEOC to assist in supplying water to residents."

Karl provided the following from his prelim research tonight:

"I think the "do not use" order and subsequent state of emergency is related to lack of toxicity information rather than known hazard.

From Chemspider: It has a low vapor pressure (0.133 mmHg at 25C) and high boiling point (192C at 760mmHg) so its not moving into the air. The density is 0.884 g/cm3 so its a floater.

I think its an eye and skin irritant based on structure. Can't find any tox specific studies."

Let us know if we can be of assistance.

Best, Lora

Lora Siegmann Werner, MPH
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